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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Howard J. Worman and Naoto Mamiya
Serial No.: 09/407,430 Examiner: Q. Nguyen
Filed : September 29, 1999 Group Art Unit: 1632
For : HCV E2 PROTEIN BINDING AGENTS FOR TREATMENT OF
HEPATITIS C VIRUS INFECTION

1185 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10036
April 18, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
AND CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) (2)

In accordance with their duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, applicants direct the Examiner's attention to the following disclosures which were identified in a PCT International Search Report of International Application No. PCT/US00/26395, dated November 9, 2000, attached as **Exhibit A**. The following disclosures are also listed on Form PTO-1449 attached as **Exhibit B**. Copies of the disclosures listed below as items 1-5 are attached as **Exhibits 1-5**, respectively:

1. PCT Application Publication No. 99/18198, International Publication Date, April 15, 1999, International Application No. PCT/IB98/0162B, filed October 6, 1998;
2. PCT International Publication No. 99/24054, International Publication Date, May 20, 1999, International Application No. PCT/EP98/07107, filed November 6, 1998. 04/27/2001 PCT/EP98/07107 00000001 033125 09407430
3. Choo, Q.L. et al., "Genetic Organization and Diversity of the Hepatitis C Virus", (1991) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. 88:1136-1140. 01-RC-1136 100-00 CH

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88:2451-2455;

4. Di Bisceglie, A.M., (1999) "Hepatitis C Virology and Future Antiviral Targets", American Journal of Medicine 107:45S-48S;
5. Nomura N. et al., "Prediction of the Coding Sequences of Unidentified Human Genes. II. The Coding Sequences of 40 New Genes (KIAA0041-KIAA0080) Deduced By Analysis of cDNA Clones from Human Cell Lines KG-1", DNA Research 1:223-229.

In compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(2), no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to filing this Information Disclosure Statement.

Therefore, applicants respectfully request that the Examiner review the above identified references and make them of record in the subject application.

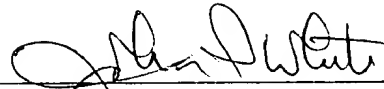
If a telephone interview would be of assistance in advancing prosecution of the subject application, applicant's undersigned attorney invite the Examiner to telephone him at the number provided below.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c)(1), no fee is deemed necessary in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. However, if any fee is required, authorization is

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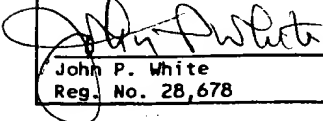
hereby given to charge the amount of such fee to Deposit Account
No. 03-3125.

Respectfully submitted,



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I hereby certify that this correspondence
is being deposited this date with the U.S.
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